

Do you know that it is dalits, atheists and even moslems who have taken up the issue of the present Bill which is bound to affect the Christians the most? Dr. Satinath Choudhry is one of the earliest to respond. The objections to the Bill have appeared before the secular and dalit E-fora even before the head of any Church has even taken note of the Bill. Fascism is here and now. The very rights of individuals are at stake. Have you done enough???

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2001*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 298 and 299, final passage of H.R. 2647, Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2002 and the approval of the Journal, I was detained at the White House in a meeting on World Conference Against Racism. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both.

#### TRIBUTE TO RUTH HYMAN

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2001*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of Congress to an event on Thursday, August 16 in New Jersey. The Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Monmouth County is holding a dinner and tribute at Temple Beth El of Oakhurst to honor Ruth Hyman. Ruth will have the distinction of being honored for her work as a philanthropist and her support of Jewish causes in the area, as well as in Israel.

Ruth, a close friend of mine, was born in my hometown of Long Branch, New Jersey into a family of four boys and four girls. She says that her parents' direction and teachings of tzedakah, menschlichkeit, and the Torah guided her to be the person that she is today.

Ruth's teachings as a child can well be seen in her community involvement. She is a life member of Daughters of Miriam, charter and life member of the Central Jersey Jewish Home for the Aged, founder and past chairperson of the Federation Women's Business and Professional Division, benefactor and board member of the Jewish Community Center, and an active member of B'nai Brith, AMIT, and Congregation Brothers of Israel. For the past twenty-five years Ms. Hyman has been the Chairperson of the Women's Division of Israel Bonds, and for the past twenty-six years she has been the president of the Long Branch Hadassah.

This is not the first time that Ruth has been honored for her service to the community. Ruth has received the Service Award from the Jewish Federation Women's Campaign, Woman of Valor of the Long Branch chapter of Hadassah, Israel Bonds Golda Meir Award and the Ben Gurion Award, Lay Leader of the

Year by the Jewish Federation, and the Hadassah National Leadership Award. The community cannot express the debt that we owe to my friend Ruth who has shown us all that selflessness will never go unrecognized.

I want to personally thank Ruth Hyman for being a leader of the Jewish community and an excellent role model for our youth.

#### HONORING CONNEE GARTLAND ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2001*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person, Mrs. Connee Gartland, on the occasion of her 80th birthday. Family and friends will gather this weekend in Dennisport, Massachusetts to celebrate this milestone.

Constance Doris Fischer Gartland was born on August 7, 1921 in Boston, Massachusetts to Alfons and Louise M. Fischer. She earned a B.S. Degree in Education from Salem State College in 1943 and a Master's in Business from Boston University in 1945. During her distinguished career as an educator, she held the position of Business Education Teacher at Mary Brooks School and Academie Moderne, both in Boston; and Weston High School in Weston, Massachusetts.

On October 7, 1950 Connee married Edward V. Gartland, Jr. They became the proud parents of four children: Susan, Pamela, Deborah and Edward V. III and eventually the proud grandparents of five grandchildren; Brian and Kevin Anderson, Delaney and Riley Cruickshank, and Edward V. Gartland IV. They lived in Newton, Massachusetts and spent summers in their home in Dennisport.

With warmth and generosity, Connee and Ed opened their hearts and home over the years to neighbors and friends of all ages and from all parts of the country. There was always lively and enjoyable conversation in their home because of their many interests and activities.

During the winter, Connee now lives in Fort Myers, Florida where she is a member of the Development Committee at her church. Other memberships include the Women's Club, the 9-Holers Golf League, where she held the position of Treasurer; and the staff of the Lake Fairways Newsletter, The Informer.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in sending our congratulations to a wonderful person, Connee Gartland, who has touched so many lives as a former educator, parent, grandparent, and friend. Let us extend our best wishes for a Happy 80th Birthday and continued health and happiness.

#### U.S. RELATIONS WITH PERU

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2001*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, U.S. relations with Peru have recently become a matter of concern due to the shoot-down of the U.S. missionary plane, with the death of two U.S. nationals, a mother and her child, and the continued imprisonment of Lori Berenson. At the same time, we have been witnessing the growing accusations of corruption and human rights abuses stemming from the arrest of former Peruvian spy chief Vladimiro Montesinos. The fact that Berenson was arrested and convicted at a time when Montesinos virtually controlled the country's judiciary system is enough to arouse suspicion over the country's ability to have fairly administered justice.

Berenson's recent sham retrial, under Peru's current provisional government, has served to bolster those suspicions. As a result of the judiciary's long ties to the country's corrupt political system, Berenson's second trial before a civilian judge, which sentenced her to twenty years in prison, marked only a slight improvement over the original 1996 military trial in which a hooded judge sentenced Berenson to life imprisonment.

On the eve of a potential new era of politics in Peru, the time to act on the Berenson case is now. On July 28th, president-elect Alejandro Toledo will be sworn in as Peru's new president and the country, which had been gripped by autocracy for the last ten years under now-disgraced former President Alberto Fujimori, will be given a genuine opportunity to break with its corrupt past. President Bush and the U.S. Congress should do all that they can to assist President Toledo and the whole of Peru in their recovery from ten years of corrupt leadership, if the new administration ensures that Lori Berenson be granted justice. Regarding the Berenson case, we would like to know if the State Department did enough to protect this U.S. national and what exactly were the ties between this country and Montesinos, and did we do enough to publicize the villainy of this man. I'm afraid the answers to these questions may prove embarrassing.

Beyond the moral obligation to intervene on Berenson's behalf, the President has a legal obligation to seek Berenson's release. Under U.S. Code 22 Section 1732, the President must do everything in his power, short of acts of war, to obtain or effectuate the release of a U.S. citizen wrongfully incarcerated by a foreign government.

The following press memorandum was authorized by Mariah Freark and Sabrina Blum, Research Associates at the Washington-based Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA), an organization that has been long-committed to addressing issues associated with democracy and human rights throughout the hemisphere. COHA's researchers have often spoken out about controversial issues regarding U.S. relations with Latin America. The attached press memorandum addresses information concerning Lori Berenson and Peru, and should serve to enlighten us.